

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Claims 1, 8, 9, 45, and 49 have been amended to delete the term “the steps of”.

Claims 55 and 56 have been canceled. These claims were added by a Preliminary Amendment dated February 23, 2001. They were not acted on by the Examiner, but the cancellation of these claims now makes that issue moot.

Claims 1-4, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neff et al. (US 5,841,885) and further in view of Benoit et al. (US 6,270,610).

By this amendment, claim 1 has been revised to more clearly set forth the invention. In the claimed method, both an image and a digital image representation that has been processed from the image are recorded on a medium. The medium is specified to have an oriented polymer. As amended, the claim requires that the digital representation contain information which was not recorded in the image recorded on the output medium. An example of such a digital representation, as set forth in the specification, is the residual image. Amended claim 1 requires that the image be formed on a particular medium having an oriented polymer and also that the digital representation be formed on the output medium. An important feature of this invention is that it facilitates, in the future, restoration of the original scene, including recovering image information that was not recorded in the image on the output medium.

Turning first to Neff et al. Neff et al., as the Examiner points out, record both an image and a digital record which is representative of the image on an output medium. First, it should be noted that the Examiner agrees that Neff et al. does not disclose the use of an oriented polymer as required by amended claim 1. Also, what Neff et al. is recording is an image and a digital representation of the same image. Neff et al. does not record a digital representation that contains information which was not recorded in the image on the output medium. In particular, Neff et al. is only concerned with providing a digital image that is sufficient to reproduce the image on the photographic print. This is different than the present invention which requires that information be

recorded beyond that recorded in the image on the output medium. Neff et al. does not disclose, suggest, or provide any motivation for the subject matter of amended claim 1 which, when practiced, permits the recovery of the original scene.

Summarizing, Neff et al. does not disclose the medium nor does Neff et al. disclose or suggest the feature of the digital information which has information not in the image recorded on the output medium.

Benoit et al. relate to a multilayer film substrate for producing bank notes. At the outset, it is noted that Benoit et al. record only an image and does not record the digital information set forth above. Benoit et al. does disclose that the medium can contain an oriented polymer but, nevertheless, Applicants fail to see how Benoit et al. can be combined with Neff et al. to suggest the present invention, since Benoit et al. have nothing to do with recording a digital representation of information in the image which was not recorded in the image on the output medium.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that neither Neff et al. or Benoit et al., taken singly or in combination, disclose, suggest, or provide any motivation for the subject matter of amended claim 1. Amended claim 1 is believed to be allowable. Dependent claims 2-7 should also be allowable along with amended claim 1.

Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neff et al. and Benoit et al. as applied to claims 1-4, and 7 above, and further in view of Shaw et al. (US 6,218,004).

Neff et al. and Benoit et al. have been discussed above.

Shaw et al. relate to particular use of additives in sheet materials. However, there is nothing in Shaw et al. which would suggest the use of a recorded image and the digital information now required by amended claim 1. Accordingly, claims 5 and 6 should also be allowable.

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hidaka (US 6,344,900) and further in view of Benoit et al. (US 6,270,610) and further in view of Miyazaki (US 6,529,288).

Claim 8 has been amended along the lines of claim 1. It should be noted that amended claim 8 requires the recording of an adjusted extended color

gamut digital image on the output medium together with a digital representation of information in the image which was not recorded in the image. The Examiner has cited Hidaka for the proposition that it is known to record adjusted extended color gamut digital image. Even assuming this is true, there is no suggestion of the subject matter of amended claim 8, as Hidaka does not teach recording a digital representation of information in the image which was not recorded on the output medium. Benoit has been discussed above. Miyazaki teaches the recording of bar coded information containing title, name, date and content of the image and possible memory location. There is nothing in this disclosure which would suggest the recording of a digital representation of information in the image which was not recorded on the output medium.

It is believed that these changes now make the claims clear and definite and, if there are any problems with these changes, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raymond L. Owens', written over a horizontal line.

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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.